

The third faction is a diplomatic and conservative body. It does not believe in doing anything hastily. It prefers to wait until the situation politically becomes crystallized in New York State. The gentlemen comprising this element say there is plenty of time for New York State to make up its mind within the next three months. They say that while a silver platform at this time is objectionable to a large majority in New York, that party policy requires conservative action and that however overwhelming the gold standard adherents may be in New York at present, there is a possibility that the free silver champions will increase their numbers before long and be in a position to win a victory in the State this fall.

Choice of Three Courses.
This waiting element suggests that when the Democratic State Convention assembles in the fall for the purpose of nominating candidates for State offices, the situation will have been considerably cleared up. They say that if the convention is held sufficiently late, the effect of the free silver sentiment will have made itself apparent, and that at that time the New York leaders can best tell the course that should be pursued—that of joining a third movement, of endorsing McKinley, or of supporting the Democratic silver candidate.

The conference was secret and the fact that it was being held was not known to the rank and file of the New York contingent. These ardent workers have been wondering about all night disconsolately wondering what programme their leaders had decided. During this time the gentlemen upon whom rests the responsibility for the management of the party were engaged in a warm discussion. All the views above outlined were advanced with much vigor and emphasis. One thing was demonstrated, and that was the hopeless minority in which the advocates of the bolt stand. Those who prefer the waiting policy come next in number, while those who believe in endorsing whatever the Democratic Convention may do are in the majority.

After everybody had expressed an opinion on the subject, Senator Hill suggested that the delegation had better wait until the last moment before coming to any definite conclusion. He thought that a middle ground should be chosen, upon which all could walk. This ground, he said, involved a maintenance of its place in the Convention by the New York delegation, but a declaration to vote or take any part in the proceedings.

The Tammany leaders did not take kindly to this proposition. They thought that New York should not sit silent in the Convention while the Democratic party of the country was doing its legitimate functions in earnest.

In Support of Hill.

Senator Hill was supported by ex-Governor Flower, Senator Cantor and Mr. Whitney. They agreed fully with him that definite action should be postponed, and were inclined to think him right in his suggestion that New York should take no part in the Convention's proceedings, but remain silent when the State is reached on the roll call. They said that such a course would be a discourtesy to the Convention, and whatever might follow hereafter, no action would result. New York by doing nothing, could subsequently either use the Democratic platform and ticket, or repudiate it with equal consistency. The point was made by one gentleman that it would be well to secure unanimity inaction among all the Eastern delegations, and Mr. Whitney was appointed a committee of one to sound the leaders of the other gold delegations. This question was raised as to whether this inactivity would not cause a deadlock in the convention. Some held the opinion that as the East holds more than one-third of the delegates it would be impossible to make a nomination with less than two-thirds.

Mr. Sheehan was appealed to for an answer to this question. He said he thought the nomination could be legally made if a full convention were present, and as two-thirds of the delegates voted for one man, he thought that a ruling of the chair would justify this action, and that any belief that the Eastern inactivity would make the silver men's efforts to nominate abortive was groundless. In other words, in Mr. Sheehan's opinion, two-thirds or more of the delegates present and a candidate receives two-thirds of the total vote cast, he will be legally nominated.

Hill Plan Adopted.

Immediately before the conference broke up Senator Hill's plan to ask leave of the convention to withdraw for the purpose of consultation was adopted. The position of Senator Cantor, an alternate-at-large, is representing in the convention the Senator Murphy, is being commanded upon.

Senator Cantor, it is thought, is inclined to favor a bolt or at least a repudiation by the State Convention of the national Democratic platform and ticket. The Senator is a member of Tammany Hall and represents a city district, and the question arises to whether or not he will conflict with other Tammany leaders. Senator Cantor holds that in this matter he owes no allegiance to Tammany Hall; that by virtue of his position as an alternate-at-large his duty is toward the Democracy of the State, rather than to a local organization. If the State organization should in future bolt, Senator Cantor will in all probability join in that movement.

SENATOR DANIEL CHOSEN.

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duced the Rev. Ernest M. Stires, the young rector of Grace Episcopal Church.

His Golden Prayer.

Although young in years, the person's oratory made a favorable impression. His voice was well modulated and distinct as he evoked the blessing and the mercy of Almighty God. The spectacle of 14,000 people standing in silence and listening with rapt attention was as impressive as any scene of the day. The prayer had a golden flavor, but implored peace and good will between man and man. Senator Tillman did not appear to be satisfied with his references to the crisis of the hour, thinking, doubtless, as did many listeners more unbiased than he, that it leaned toward his political opponents.

A PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE.

Almighty God: The hearts of Thy people are lifted in gratitude to Thee for the manifold blessings Thou has vouchsafed to our country from the dawn of its independence unto this day. We thank Thee for the wisdom and courage which enabled our fathers to build better than their fathers, for deliverance from all dangers within and without our borders, and for our unparalleled progress in times of prosperity and peace. O God of our fathers, continue to guide and sustain Thy children.

In our doubts and fears and distress we cry unto Thee for help. Grant us wisdom to discern among all the perplexing problems of this time where lies the path of honor and safety. Help us to consider the vital questions which must be answered with thoroughness, patience and tolerance. Give us strength and courage to do what an enlightened conscience shall declare to be our duty. Inspire us with a patriotism above expediency.

Remind us that honesty is not only the best, but the only policy worthy the consideration of a great people. May the hearts of all be filled with profound respect and sympathy for our tolling multitude oppressed with burden and sorrow, for them to bear, teach us how to give them relief without doing violence to the rights of any.

While we plead for ourselves, we are mindful of the sorrows of others. May the day soon come when no power shall be permitted to inflict upon a lone people indefensible slaughter and unrepentable shame; when no cloud of despotism shall overhang those who sigh for liberty. May we ever feel the deepest sympathy for the distressed in the great brotherhood of mankind and yet be able to maintain an honorable peace with all.

Upon the great convention now assembled in Thy presence send Thy gracious blessing. May its members be inspired with the most exalted patriotism, seeking no private or sectional advantage, but only the national good, so that our united and prosperous land may continue to be in all that is truest and best of the nation of the nation of the earth. And Thee, O God, shall we ascribe all honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen!

Thus did the gold cause get its work in early. If its supporters could not have the temporary chairmanship, the prayer was in their interest. Falling on earth, their plea went to the golden gates of Heaven.

When the rector had finished his prayer and the assembly had repeated itself, the presiding officer announced the action of the National Committee wherein, by a vote of 27 to 23, it had recommended the selection of Senator David B. Hill as temporary chairman; Mr. S. P. Sheehan, of Indiana, for secretary, and John I. Martin, of Missouri, as sergeant-at-arms.

A memorable scene followed. Half a dozen men in different parts of the hall strove to get possession of the floor, shouting themselves hoarse. A popular ovation to Senator Hill was in progress. It broke out in the New York section. Pennsylvania then took it up. Maryland and Massachusetts men got on their feet and were soon joined by the delegates from Minnesota, Wisconsin and New Jersey.

Touched the Wrong Button.

In his attempt to restore order Chairman Hartity pressed an electric button that rang a great gong somewhere in the hall, which the band promptly accepted as a signal and began to play. The entire hall was convulsed with laughter, but the chairman did not lose his head. He first stopped the music and then explained cleverly that he had touched the wrong bell and that it was lucky he hadn't called the Pipe Department instead of the band.

Mr. Clayton, of Alabama, secured recognition, and according to the platform, said: "In behalf of twenty-three members of your National Committee, as opposed to twenty-seven members of different opinion, and, as I believe, in accordance with the great majority of this convention, I am directed to read a minority report recommending the name of Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, as temporary chairman of this convention."

This speech was received with wild enthusiasm from all parts of the house. Delegates sprang to their feet, tossed their hats in the air and waved handkerchiefs. The frantic mob completely surrounded New York's delegates, who sat unmoved and silent. Two rows of delegates from a Southern State had been sandwiched in between them and the Kentucky State, and this narrow belt of howling derisives shut them out from their comrades completely. New Jersey, Connecticut and the other New England States, all staunch in their fidelity to the gold standard, were as rocks in a plain over which a sand storm swept.

Hill's Cause Foredoomed.

Former Governor Wallace, of Connecticut, caught the eye of the chairman, but gave way to Allan L. McDermott, of New Jersey, who uttered kind words about Daniel's nomination in an artful speech, in which he said much more for Hill than he did for Daniel, and put in a sturdy plea for harmony and good fellowship. The speech was not characterized by any of the mistakes of taste or judgment that served to blench several addresses that succeeded. Mr. McDermott spoke with real feeling, although there were no tears in his eyes, and he certainly made a favorable impression.

But the cause of Hill was foredoomed. Everybody knew it; all the eulogium heaped upon the nominee of the National Committee smacked of the kind words that the Sheriff and jailers generally have for the condemned man before he is led out for execution. Mr. Hill was the most complacent victim for a public eulogium of this character that could be imagined. He smiled now and again when the shafts of ridicule were levelled at him. Especially did he seem to find entertainment in the references to the former hostility of President Cleveland's friends and the contrasts that were drawn between their treatment of him four years ago and the fawning homage now paid him from the same quarter. His face was a study during McDermott's speech, which lasted ten minutes. The orator talked too long, unless his play was for delay.

Former Governor Waller, of Connecticut, came to the platform to second Hill's nomination. He promised to speak only five minutes, but talked nearly half an hour.

His great, round face was a certificate of good faith. The nervous, epigrammatic style of the sturdy statesman occasionally induced the members of the audience to take a hand. Referring to the rebuke that the convention threatened to administer to the National Committee, Mr. Waller, with clinched hand in air, shouted: "What ought the convention to do about it?" He did not pause for a reply, but he got one quick as a cross-counter blow.

"Elect Daniel," shouted somebody in the rear. For a moment the old political lion was staggered, but he shook his mane and promptly retorted: "Yes, elect him as permanent chairman and thereby honor both Senator Hill and Senator Daniel."

No Conciliation.

This scheme to divide the honors between the rivals staggered the entire convention for a moment. There was a gleam of hope in the face of the Pennsylvania and New York delegates, but the impression was soon effaced by shouts of disapproval and cheers for Daniel. The thought was certainly good politics, and had it been suggested by McDermott in his speech for moderation it might have taken better, but nothing short of Divine intervention could have changed the temper of the dominant faction in the convention, which, conscious of its power, was bent solely upon grabbing everything in sight.

All thoughts of conciliation were dead and the jollifying that Waller gave to the West about its hospitality and the affection felt for it in the East did not elicit a cheer.

The Governor then turned into another line as he suddenly shouted: "We are in this convention to stay."

There was a hush that could be felt, succeeded by the most spontaneous outburst of cheers heard during the day. The orator's meaning had been misunderstood. His words were accepted as implying that a bolt would not occur under any conditions, and that he spoke for the entire body of gold Democrats on the floor. Senator Hill's quick eye caught the thrill of surprise and gratification evinced by that great body of men, and he looked in the direction of the speaker in a startled, inquisitive manner, as though to interrogate him regarding the authority by which he spoke.

A moment later delegates could be seen everywhere asking each other in whispers, always the same question, in various words, "Is he authorized? Does he speak with authority?" The impression made was profound, and showed clearly to every observer that the silver men did not desire a separation from their companions of the East. It was an interesting episode. The name of Cleveland was taken up outside of the delegations and cheered by the ten or twelve thousand people in the hall. Among the delegates themselves cheers only came from Pennsylvania. Colonel Fellows was quick to seize upon this incident and it was then that, replying to Waller, of Alabama, he said it was true that New York had been favored in the selection of national standard bearers, but it must also be remembered that the Empire State gave to the party its only President in thirty years. This retort again awakened the spectators in the body of the hall and they gave such cheers for Cleveland as has not been heard in any Democratic State convention this Spring.

Colonel Fellows spoke with all the earnestness of his nature. Though his face got very red, the flow of words never ceased for an instant. He did not commit a single error of temper or tact.

During all this speaking that had followed the report of the chairman of the National Committee and of the minority in that body, Senator Hill sat unmoved. He heard only kind words from friends and foes, though occasional remarks in which friendship was flavored with the garlic of sarcasm and covered with the wormwood of protest often reached his ears.

Stir in Convention.

When Colonel Fellows remarked in a tone of voice that would have melted the heart of a graven image, "Why do you treat this distinguished Democrat like this? If it became you want to disgrace him?" the Senator suppressed a smile that showed an inclination to spread over his ample forehead and capacious skull. The tension was relieved by shouts of "No! no!"

Senator Tillman was seen sitting at the end of the South Carolina delegation, with his arms over his head grasping the standard behind him that bore the name of his State. He glared at Colonel Fellows as if he could impale him upon its glistening lines.

The next speech was that of H. W. Marston, of Louisiana, who began by exclaiming, "We love Hill no less, but Democracy more." That was as far as he got. At least no more was heard of his speech. He took sixteen drinks of water in four

minutes, and every time he raised the glass to his lips, the crowd hooted him. The louder they shouted the more water he drank. Utter confusion prevailed for ten minutes. Cries were heard of, "Don't drink any more," "Nobody but him takes water," "Who is he?" "Is this a temperance lecture?"

Even Hill and Whitney laughed heartily. The scene recalled a recent one in the Virginia State Convention at Staunton where "Cyclone Jim," a local celebrity, was similarly treated by the assembled Democratic shouters.

End of the Speeches.

John M. Duncan, a delegate-at-large from Texas, again took up the cudgels in favor of the Southern sentiment. He said that the party in his State revered the name of David B. Hill.

"All Democrats are good, and some are better," he declared. "The gold men have made this issue and they must meet it. This convention does not want to hear Mr. Hill make a New York speech. It would rather hear from the majority than the minority to-day. Let what we have to do, painful as it is, be done as friends."

"And at once," shouted Tillman, interrupting. This rally, hot from the pitch fork of "one suspender Ben," convulsed everybody in the hall with laughter.

During the entire afternoon letter carriers were busy distributing mail as it arrived for delegates during the day. A bundle was at this moment handed to Tillman. As an effort on the part of Postmaster Heeling to demonstrate his efficiency, the incident was well timed, and thoroughly carried out. Everybody noticed it. J. W. St. Clair, of West Virginia, a man of the old school, who recalls Stephen A. Douglass, said a few kind words in favor of the obviously defeated candidate.

"What harm can Hill do as your temporary chairman?" he asked. "He can't do anything but make a speech, and he can make a good speech at any time, on any subject."

Mr. St. Clair especially recalled the treatment the Hill minority had received four years ago, and declared that the majority of the Democracy were now of one mind, that in codding Cleveland at the expense of Hill, they had not shown proper respect to the minority. This was the signal for another outburst of glee.

Henry B. Clayton, of Alabama, made the final speech. He created amusement by saying that he would not drink any water. He then rubbed in the Elmina free coinage speech of 1892 on Governor Hill, swinging his right arm like a battle axe and chewing his words like a gulf of tobacco.

Every delegate in the great hall took a long breath when the speeches were ended.

Calling the States in Order.

Just as calmly as he opened the session Chairman Hartity now announced that the roll would be called by States, and that where any announcement by the chairman thereof was challenged the entire delegation of that State would be polled.

The vote was upon the substitution of John W. Daniel's name for that of David B. Hill as temporary chairman. It partook of the nature of the amendment and had to be voted upon prior to the original recommendation of the committee.

"Alabama," shouted the secretary of the convention.

Promptly the answer came from the chairman of the committee: "Twenty-two votes in favor of the minority report. We vote under the unit rule, although nine members of our delegation are in favor of Senator Hill."

This was the first ray of hope, and it came in the first moment of the roll call. Arkansas recorded sixteen votes. California eighteen and Colorado eight in behalf of the silver candidate. When Connecticut was reached, her twelve delegates went solidly to Governor Hill, as did the six of Delaware and half of the Florida delegation. There was some cheering, but it was drowned when the large vote of Georgia and the overwhelming votes of delegates of Illinois and Indiana were recorded on the Daniel side. When Iowa was reached Governor Stone announced that nineteen of his twenty-six delegates favored Mr. Daniel, seven desiring Mr. Hill. The split in Iowa's vote was purely a matter of personal taste, as the poll of the State showed.

Reasons and Explanations.

The delegates who held out for Mr. Hill did so on the ground that they desired to give him a chance to make his speech in behalf of his cause. They were in favor of giving the opposition all the latitude possible. A monotonous succession of solid delegations for the silver nominee continued until Kentucky was reached. When Chairman Oliver James attempted to list the 20 votes for Daniel, Mr. Calderman, manager of the Louisville Courier-Journal, challenged the statement, and a call of the roll proved that two delegates clung affectionately to Senator Hill. As the unit rule obtained, however, Senator Daniel got the delegation. The same thing happened in Michigan, but the boot was on the other leg. Chairman Stevenson announced that in his delegation, the ayes, or Daniel votes, were 13, and the nays 13. As the unit rule obtained, the 25 votes were cast solidly for David Bennett Hill. A count of the delegation showed that sixteen members favored Senator Hill, providing that the chairman had understated the situation rather than exaggerated.

Nebraska, without the unit rule, as its chairman took great pains to announce, delivered its sixteen votes solidly for Senator Hill. Ohio's forty-six votes for free silver were challenged, but a call of the roll showed only eight golden backsliders among them. Consequently the State went solidly under the unit rule for the white metal.

Under the unit rule for the white metal.

When New York was called seventy-one of her delegates voted solidly for the gold candidate, and Governor Flower laid special stress upon the fact that Senator Hill remained from voting. When the name of Virginia was reached in the roll of States the chairman arose, and in a voice that smacked of irony more than of the boasted Southern chivalry, of which so much is heard south of the Potomac, he said: "The Old Dominion casts twenty-three of its twenty-four votes in favor of the minority nominee, and John W. Daniel casts his one vote in favor of David B. Hill, of New York."

This was a fine shot. Senator Daniel likes a joke, but this was a severe one.

It had been said for some time by all who had kept carefully tally that the silver men would not make a showing of two-thirds of the 806 delegates in the full convention, and after the roll had been completed the vote was seen to 556 in behalf of the silver candidate as against 349 in favor of Senator Hill. Knowing that 604 delegates constituted a two-thirds majority of the convention, the silver strength was seen to be forty-eight votes short of the requisite two-thirds demanded by precedent for the nomination of a Presidential candidate in the days of the convention to follow. The vote by States is interesting and is given elsewhere.

The victory of the silver men was complete so far as it went, but it did not prove absolutely that they could get along without an abrogation of the two-thirds rule, although many votes were cast for Hill because of his personal popularity. Such was the case in the Territory of Alaska, in West Virginia, Washington, Minnesota and Maryland.

There were some cheers when the vote was announced, but nothing like the boisterous demonstration that had been anticipated.

Hartity's Changed Manner.

Chairman Hartity changed his entire manner of dealing with the convention the moment the result was announced. He as good as said to the unwieldy majority: "This is your convention now; take it and do what you please with it." He announced the victory of Senator Daniel and said that if no objections were raised he would dispense with putting to a vote the recommendation made by the National Committee. In saying this he obviously meant to convey the impression that the majority of the committee felt the slight that had been put upon it and did not desire further evidence to go upon the record.

He then appointed a committee of three to escort the temporary chairman to the platform. The three delegates chosen were all silver men, as if further to emphasize that the gold delegations washed their hands of the whole proceedings. Senator Daniel soon appeared upon the platform. Always graceful and dignified, his face to-day was gladdened by success and made rosy by the cheers that greeted him. His long black hair was well oiled and his perfectly fitting frock coat was buttoned to the neck. More and more does his face grow to resemble that of the late Edwin Booth, and as he gets years and gray hairs, his will be one of the finest physiognomies in American public life. He began to read his speech after paying a graceful compliment to Chairman Hartity for the admirable and impartial manner in which he had discharged his duties. His speech follows in full:

Chairman Daniel's Speech.

Mr. Chairman of the National Democratic Convention—In receiving from your hands this gavel as the temporary presiding officer of this convention, I beg leave to express a sentiment, which I am sure is unanimous, and which no national convention was ever presided over with more ability or more fairness than by yourself. I can express no better wish for myself than that I may be able in some feeble way to model my conduct by your model and to practice by your example.

The high position, gentlemen, to which you have chosen me involves both a great personal honor and a keen responsibility. For the honor I thank you. The responsibility I would be wholly unable to bear did I depend upon myself, but your gracious aid will ease my ease and its burden light. That aid I cordially invoke from you for the sake of the great cause under whose banner we have fought so many battles, and which now demands of us such staunch devotion and such loyal service.

I regret that my name should have been brought to even the most courteous and serious consideration with that of my distinguished friend, the great Senator from New York. But the very fact that I have permitted it to be done refutes the suggestion that I have been imprudently or unwisely chosen. Do either I or those whom I have the honor to represent would ever bear indignity upon that brave and illustrious head.

ONLY A QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE.

No candid man, no dispassionate judgment, gentlemen, can ever misinterpret my meaning. The Senator from New York himself knows, as you know and as I know, that there is no personality in the preference which has been given to me. He must know, and the whole country that watches these proceedings must know, that it is solely due to the principle that the great majority of Democrats stand for, and that they know I stand with them. And that it is given in the spirit of the instructions received by these representatives.

There is one thing golden which permit me in the same good humor, which has characterized your conduct, to commend to you here, the golden rule to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Forget not the greed of devils and that an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority is the same vital principle of the republic, commends as you have been! Democrats as I know, you will ever be acquiescent gracefully in the will of the great majority of your fellow Democrats and only ask to go with them, as they have often gone with you.

Do not forget, gentlemen, that for thirty years we have supported the man that you have named for President, Seymour, Grover, Tilden, Hancock and twice Grover Cleveland. Do not forget that we have submitted cheerfully to your compromised platform and to your repeated pledges of bimetallicism, and have patiently borne repeated disappointments as to their fulfillment. Do not forget that at the last National Convention of the Democratic party, in 1892, you proclaimed yourselves to be in favor of the use of both gold and silver as a standard money of the country, for the coinage of both gold and silver without discriminating against either metal,

and that the only question left open was the ratio between the metals.

Do not forget—and I refer to the fact in no inferior sense—that just four years ago in a Democratic convention in this city the New York delegation stood here solidly and unmovably for a candidate committed to the free and unlimited coinage of gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, and if we still let it, let it not be forgotten that we owe it in some measure to their teachings. That we owe you much, gentlemen of the East, is readily acknowledged and will be ever most gratefully remembered. We owe you much, gentlemen of the convention, and what we owe you of the East is the Force bill, the McKinley bill, and the Sherman law, the triple infamy of Republican legislation.

The first was aimed not more at the South than at the great cities of the East, and chief among them, the great Democratic city of New York, with its magnificent patronage. That bill got its death blow in the Senate, but there was not a single Democrat in New York or in any of the States of the South, you gentlemen have helped to save the South, it also has helped to save you in the East, but whether the South should be saved or not those great American Republican Senators from the West, Teller and Wolcott and your Jones and your Stanford of California, sank their partisan feeling on the order and their patriotism and came forward to the rescue of American institutions.

From the joint operation of the McKinley law and the Sherman law an adverse balance of trade was forced upon us in 1893. A surplus of one hundred millions in the Treasury was converted into a deficit of seventy millions in 1894, and engraved bonds prepared by a Republican Secretary to borrow money to support the Government were the ill-omen of the prearranged rule that awaited the incoming Democracy. There ensued the very unbusinesslike and inefficient Sherman law makeshift, were already at confessional upon the stool of penitence and were begging Democrats to help them to put out the conflagration of disaster that they themselves had kindled.

WORK OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. So far as revenue to support the Government is concerned, the Democratic party, with but a slender majority in the Senate, was not long providing it, and had not the Supreme Court of the United States reversed its settled doctrine of one hundred years, the income tax incorporated in the Tariff bill would long since have abundantly supplied it. Respecting finance, the Republicans, Populists and Democrats, while differing upon almost all other subjects, had united in 1892 in declaring for the restoration of our American system of bimetallicism. By Republican and Democratic efforts alike, the Sherman law was swept from the statute books.

The eagerness to rid the country of that Republican incubus was so great that no prudent effort was made to provide a substitute. In the very act of the Sherman law repeal it was declared to be the policy of the United States of America to continue the use of both gold and silver as standard money, and to coin therefrom a standard intrinsic and exchangeable value. The Republican party has now renounced the creed of its platform and of our national pledges and presented to the country the issue of higher taxes, more bonds and less money. It has proclaimed at St. Louis, and secured the disavowal of the British gold standard.

We can only expect should they succeed, my countrymen, a specimen of panic and a long protracted period of depression. Do not ask us then to join them in any of their propositions. Least of all, ask us not to join them upon "the money question" and "the tariff." For the money question is the paramount issue before the American people, and it involves true Americanism more than any economic issue that ever was presented to a President at a Presidential election.

NOT UPON A GOLD STANDARD.

The existing gold standard, whence comes the idea that we are upon it? No, we are not upon any gold standard, but we have a disordered and miscellaneous currency of nine varieties, three of metal and six of paper, the product for the most part of Republican legislation, rendered worse by Treasury practices begun by Republican administrations and unfortunately copied by their Democratic successors.

Then consider these facts, gentlemen: The Federal, State and municipal taxes in this country are assessed and paid by the standard of the value of money in circulation. No authority has ever been conferred by Congress for the issue of any bonds payable in gold, but such authority has been distinctly refused. The specie resumption of 1875 made the surplus revenue in the Treasury, not gold only, but money of redemption. Provided made by the Bland-Allison act of 1875 added to our circulation some three hundred and fifty millions of standard silver money, or paper based upon it, and all that mass of silver money is sustained at parity with gold by nothing but the legal tender function imparted to it by law.

We have no outstanding obligations in the United States except the small sum of forty-five millions of gold certificates, which are specifically payable in gold, and they, of course, should be so paid. All of our specific obligations are payable in coin, which means silver or gold at the Government's option, or in silver specifically and only. There is more paper and silver based upon silver in circulation to-day than there is of gold or paper based on gold, and this is demonstrated by the fact that no gold dollar piece can now, under our laws, be minted. If we should go under the gold standard, we must change the existing bimetallic standard of payment of all public debts, taxes and appropriations, serving alone those specifically payable in gold.

Adjourned for the Day.

When the new chairman had finished, and he closed without adequate applause to so temperate an address, there were calls from all parts of the house for Senator Hill. These shouts broke out often among the silver ranks and were repeated at intervals during the rest of the afternoon session. The usual resolutions of thanks were passed to the chairman of the National Committee and its secretary and other officers. When this was done there were more shouts for Hill. The rules and order of procedure of the last convention and of the Fifty-third Congress, it being the last Democratic Congress, were accepted as governing the proceedings until otherwise ordered.

A call of the States was then made, and the committees on Resolutions, Credentials, Permanent Organization, Rules and Nominations of Candidates were announced. At the conclusion of each branch of this work renewed shouts for Hill were heard. Needless to say, the Senator never moved a muscle of his face nor showed any disposition to ascend the rostrum to make a speech. A strong resolution in behalf of struggling Cuba was offered by William Sulzer, of New York, and was referred to the appropriate committee. It would have passed at once but for an objection by Senator Cockrell, of Missouri. The convention then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.